

What is claimed is:

1. A printer comprising:

a print head for making reciprocating motion transversely with respect to a recording medium to thereby perform both forward printing and backward printing on the recording medium;

a misalignment correction unit for correcting misalignment between the forward printing and the backward printing;

a temperature detection unit for detecting an ambient temperature;

a setting unit for setting a correction reference value for the misalignment correction unit;

a storage unit for storing the correction reference value set by the setting unit and the ambient temperature detected by the temperature detection unit when the correction reference value is set; and

a calculation unit for calculating a misalignment correction value by revising the correction reference value on the basis of a result of comparison between the ambient temperature stored in the storage unit and an ambient temperature at the time of printing;

wherein the misalignment correction unit corrects misalignment on the basis of the misalignment correction value calculated by the calculation unit.

2. The printer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the storage

unit stores a temperature subrange table on which consecutive numbers for indicating temperature subranges respectively are assigned to the temperature subranges obtained by dividing an available temperature range of the printer on the basis of the amount of misalignment at each temperature in such a manner that a temperature subrange larger in the amount of misalignment is narrower than a temperature subrange smaller in the amount of misalignment; and

the calculation unit refers to the temperature subrange table, decides a temperature subrange including the ambient temperature detected by the temperature detection unit and calculates the misalignment correction value by revising the correction reference value on the basis of a difference between a number stored in the storage unit and indicating a temperature subrange including the ambient temperature detected at the time of setting of the correction reference value and a number indicating a temperature subrange including a present ambient temperature detected by the temperature detection unit.

3. A print control method for correcting misalignment between forward printing and backward printing when a print head makes reciprocating motion transversely with respect to a recording medium to thereby perform both the forward printing and the backward printing on the recording medium, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a setting mode for setting the correction reference value;

storing the set correction reference value and an ambient temperature at the time of setting of the correction reference value; and

calculating a misalignment correction value by revising the correction reference value on the basis of a result of comparison between the ambient temperature at the time of setting of the correction reference value and an ambient temperature at the time of printing to thereby correct misalignment on the basis of the calculated misalignment correction value.